



JOHN NAIMO
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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June 14, 2016

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: John Naimo 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **JUNIOR BLIND OF AMERICA – A DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDER – PROGRAM REVIEW**

We completed a program review of Junior Blind of America (Junior Blind or Agency), which included a sample of billings from Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) contracts with Junior Blind to provide mental health services, including interviewing Program clients, assessing their mental health needs, and implementing treatment plans.

The purpose of our review was to determine whether Junior Blind maintained adequate documentation to support their billings, and that the documentation complied with their County contract and other related guidelines. In addition, we evaluated whether Junior Blind used qualified staff to provide services as required by their County contract.

DMH paid Junior Blind approximately \$1.2 million on a cost-reimbursement basis for FY 2015-16. The Agency provides services to residents in all Supervisorial Districts.

Results of Review

Junior Blind maintained documentation to support the billings reviewed. The Agency completed Assessments, Client Treatment Plans, Progress Notes, and Informed Consent forms in accordance with their County contract and related guidelines. In addition, Junior Blind's treatment staff had the required qualifications to provide DMH Program services.

Details of our review are attached.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with Junior Blind and DMH. Junior Blind is not required to submit a response to this report because there are no findings or recommendations.

We thank Junior Blind management and staff for their cooperation and assistance during our review. If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aggie Alonso at (213) 253-0304.

JN:AB:PH:AA:EB:nj

Attachment

c: Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Robin Kay, Ph.D., Acting Director, Department of Mental Health
Scott M. Farkas, Board President, Junior Blind of America
Diane Rigsby, Director of Mental Health, Junior Blind of America
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**JUNIOR BLIND OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
PROGRAM REVIEW
FISCAL YEAR 2015-16**

PROGRAM SERVICES

Objective

Determine whether Junior Blind of America (Junior Blind or Agency) maintained documentation to support the services billed to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) in accordance with their County contract and related guidelines. In addition, determine whether Junior Blind completed Assessments, Client Treatment Plans, Progress Notes, and Informed Consent forms in accordance with their County contract and related guidelines.

Verification

We selected 44 (2%) of the 2,297 approved Medi-Cal billings claimed for July and August 2015, which were the most current billings available at the time of our review (April 2016). We reviewed the Assessments, Client Treatment Plans, Progress Notes, and Informed Consent forms in the clients' case files for the selected billings. The 44 billings represent services provided to 15 clients.

Results

Junior Blind maintained documentation to support the 44 billings reviewed. In addition, the Agency completed the Assessments, Client Treatment Plans, Progress Notes, and Informed Consent forms in accordance with their County contract and related guidelines.

Recommendation

None.

STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Objective

Determine whether Junior Blind's treatment staff had the required qualifications to provide DMH Program services.

Verification

We reviewed the California Board of Behavioral Sciences' website and/or the personnel files for ten (31%) of the 32 treatment staff who provided services to DMH clients during July and August 2015.

Results

Each employee reviewed had the required qualifications to provide DMH Program services.

Recommendation

None.